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A VALUABLE collection of 117 Hawaiian birds has been presented to the University of California by Miss Annie M. Alexander, for inclusion in the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. The clearing of forest lands for cultivation in the Hawaiian Islands has resulted in the entire extinction of some of the species represented, so the collection is especially important.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE late Mr. C. D. Borden, of New York City, has bequeathed \$250,000 to Yale University, from which he graduated in 1864. The clause in his will reads: "I make this bequest without any restrictions, as I have long been of the opinion that the said corporation did not have sufficient funds to provide adequately for its general expenses and especially for proper payment of its instructors."

MR. JOHN ARMSTRONG CHALLONER has conveyed his property in trust, making the University of Virginia and the University of Carolina his residuary legatees, and giving \$10,000 to each of nine other educational institutions.

LORD HALDANE has opened the new Harrison-Hughes Engineering Laboratories at Liverpool University, erected by a gift of about £40,000 from Mr. T. F. Harrison, Mr. J. W. Hughes and Mr. Heath Harrison, the Liverpool shipowners.

It has been decided to establish a chair of agriculture in the University of Queensland, toward which Mr. Robert Philp has offered to give £1,400 and Mr. R. M. Christison £1,000.

MR. WALTER MORRISON, of Baliol College, has given £10,000 to Oxford University for the promotion of the study of agriculture.

THE late Dr. A. W. Verrall, King Edward VII. professor of English literature at Cambridge, left, subject to the life interest of his wife, £1,000 to the university absolutely, and £1,000 to Trinity College absolutely.

AN addition is being made to the Agricultural Building of the University of Illinois by enclosing the court. The structure will be only one story high and will have cement

floors. It will provide reading room, class rooms, museum, etc.

THE Medical School of Trinity College, Dublin, celebrated the bicentennial of its foundation on July 5. Seventy-eight addresses were presented by delegates from other institutions.

DR. ROBERT SHARP, dean of the graduate department of Tulane University, has been elected acting president of the university, succeeding Dr. Edwin B. Craighead, who recently resigned to become president of the University of Montana.

DR. WILLIAM PEPPER, professor of clinical pathology at the University of Pennsylvania, son of the former provost of the university, has been appointed dean of the Medical Department, to succeed Dr. Allen J. Smith, resigned. Dr. Smith will remain professor of pathology, comparative pathology and tropical medicine.

DR. THOMAS F. HUNT, director of the School of Agriculture of the Pennsylvania State College, has been appointed to succeed Dr. E. J. Erickson, dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of California.

DR. ARTHUR I. KENDALL, Boston, has been placed in charge of the research work on tuberculosis in Northwestern University, the chair for which was recently endowed with \$250,000 by James A. Patten, Evanston, Ill.

E. N. ZERN, recently professor of coal mining at the University of Pittsburgh, has been appointed professor of mining at West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.

ANSEL F. HEMENWAY, of the University of Chicago, has been appointed professor of biology and geology at Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky.

DR. OTTO GLASER has been promoted from an assistant professorship in zoology to the rank of junior professor at the University of Michigan, and has been granted \$275 for equipment for his studies on the energetics of embryogenesis.

THE following appointments have recently been made to the faculty of the College of Agriculture, University of Porto Rico: Mr. C.

L. Lang, professor of mathematics and physics; Mr. W. Ramirez, professor of Spanish; Miss E. Prat, instructor in biology.

THE Agricultural College of Utah announces the organization of a course in agricultural engineering with departments of irrigation and drainage, road building, farm machinery, farm buildings, hydraulics, rural sanitation and public health. The following appointments to the faculty have been made: R. B. West, C.E. (Cornell), professor of engineering, and Frank Daines, A.M. (Harvard), professor of history, to succeed Professor Harrison Dale, who has accepted a similar position in the Washington University at St. Louis.

THE Syracuse University Medical School has called the following men to its corps of instruction: as assistant professor of bacteriology, Leverett Dale Bristol, A.B., M.D. (Johns Hopkins), of St. Paul, Minn.; as instructor in the department of histology, Earl V. Sweet, A.B., M.D. (Cornell), of Phoenix, N. Y.; as instructor in surgery, Albert G. Swift, M.D. (Syracuse), of New York City; as instructor in pathology, John W. Cox, M.D. (Syracuse). This position was secured by scholarship. At the suggestion of the dean, Colgate University has signified its intention of permitting students to take the senior year in a registered medical college *in absentia*, such students to receive the bachelor's degree upon the presentation of a certificate from the college of medicine attended to the effect that his work has been done satisfactorily.

DR. H. K. ANDERSON, F.R.S., fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, known for his research on the physiology of the nervous system, has been elected master of the college, in succession to the late Rev. E. S. Roberts.

MISS JANET LANE-CLAYPON, M.D., D.Sc. (London), lecturer in hygiene and physiology at Battersea polytechnic, has been appointed lecturer in hygiene and physiology at King's College for Women, London.

THE following appointments have been made at the University of Manchester: Richardson lecturer in mathematics, Mr. W. D.

Evans, M.A., now lecturer in mathematics at Hartley College, Southampton; junior assistant lecturer in physics, Mr. Harold Robinson, B.Sc.; demonstrators in anatomy, Mr. J. B. Stopford, M.B., and Mr. Manfred Moritz.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### PHILIPPINE SHARKS

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: I have just received two memoirs on Philippine sharks by Dr. H. M. Smith.<sup>1</sup> In the first of these *Pentanchus profundicolus* is described as a new genus and species, and the representative of a new family of Notidanoids; in my opinion this fish belongs to the family Scyliorhinidae, and if, as I suspect may be the case, the absence of the first dorsal fin is abnormal or accidental, it is a *Scyliorhinus* closely related to the species numbered 11 to 14 in my synopsis.<sup>2</sup> The second paper deals with the Squalidae, and on comparing with my synopsis<sup>3</sup> I find that the new genus *Nasisqualus* corresponds to a section of *Centrophorus* which has already received the names *Acanthidium* and *Deania*; a second new genus, *Squalidus*, is valid, differing from *Euprotomicrus* in the structure and position of the first dorsal fin.

C. TATE REGAN

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

##### ARAGONITE COATING GRAVEL PEBBLES

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: On a trip to Clinton, Massachusetts, with Professor George H. Barton, I found in a gravel pit, directly opposite the station, a number of large pebbles with the white coating of calcium carbonate that one often sees. A hemispherical radiate growth up to 5 mm. long, at certain points, attracted my attention, and I took a couple of pebbles home. The coating, to my great surprise, proved both by Meigen's test with cobalt nitrate and by optical tests (-ex. o cleavage parallel elongation) to be aragonite.

Though I have made no goniometer investigation, the divergent prismatic crystals with

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XII., 1912.

<sup>2</sup> *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (8), I., 1908, p. 453.

<sup>3</sup> *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (8), II., 1908, p. 39.